

Learning by Ear 2014

Crossroads Generation – Season 4: Facing New Challenges

EPISODE SEVEN: Evil Eyes

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List of characters by scene:

INTRO/OUTRO: NARRATOR

SCENE 1: LULU AND HER CHILDREN ENJOY SUPPER

- LULU - F 40s
- KADU - M 12
- BANDA - M 12

SCENE 2: NONI IS FED BY HER FATHER

- PAULO - M 40s
- NONI - F 15
- SAMA - F 12

SCENE 3: BANDA AND LULU CAN'T SLEEP

- BANDA - M 12
- KADU - M 12
- LULU - F 40s

SCENE 4: NIKI WANTS A BABY

- NIKI - M 19
- MERCY - F 19

INTRO:

1. NARRATOR: Hello and welcome back to Crossroads Generation. We're on the fourth season entitled "Facing New Challenges" and this is the seventh episode: "Evil Eyes". Niki and Mercy got married a few months ago, and Niki adopted Mercy's daughter Linda. Even though Niki and Mercy really love each other, it's often difficult for them dealing with the fact that Niki is HIV positive. On the other side of town, 12-year-old Sama and her older sister Noni are also living in difficult circumstances. Noni is disabled, and their father keeps her locked up, in chains:

2. FLASHBACK: EPISODE 4, LINES 88; 93

***PAULO:** What are you doing taking Noni out? I thought I told you - she's not supposed to go outside under any circumstances! (...)*

***SAMA:** Dad, please. She needs to go out sometimes. She'd messed herself! And look what the chain did to her legs.*

3. NARRATOR: In the last episode, Sama's friend Kadu and his twin brother Banda found what seemed like a good meal to them: dead fish, just floating in the dirty Tandika river. They took some home, ignoring the shouts of a man who came running after them:

4. FLASHBACK: EPISODE 6, LINES 60-63

VOICE: Hey, you kids! Get out of the river! And throw that fish away! Can't you see it's contaminated?!

KADU/BANDA: LAUGH AS THEY RUN

VOICE: Hey - stop! (TO HIMSELF) Damn it! These kids! I hope they don't eat that fish.

5. NARRATOR: Kadu and Banda didn't hear his warning, and took the fish home. Let's join them as they eat their evening meal with their mother Lulu...

SCENE 1: LULU AND HER CHILDREN ENJOY SUPPER

6. SFX: CUTLERY AS PEOPLE EAT

7. BANDA: Mum, can I have some more of the spicy sauce? I want to put some more on the fish. I don't really like the way it tastes.

8. LULU: **(SMACKS HER LIPS)** Come on, it's delicious! I have to thank you boys.

9. KADU: You're welcome, Mum. We caught it ourselves.

10. LULU: **(LAUGHS)** Don't brag now, you've already told me.

11. BANDA/KADU: LAUGH

12. LULU: But seriously. This is what I call responsibility.
You're growing up now, so you can't just sit there
and wait to be fed. You have to contribute to the
household.

13. SFX: LONG STOMACH GRUMBLE

14. KADU: Ugh! Banda, shame on you!

15. BANDA: **(LAUGHS)** What?

16. KADU: You're spoiling the air!

17. BANDA: No, I'm not!

18. SFX: ANOTHER LONG RUMBLE

19. KADU: Come on, Banda! Stop it!

20. SFX: JOY LAUGHS

21. LULU: Hey, you two, stop squabbling right now and clear
the table. What manners are teaching your sister
Joy here?

22. KADU: It is not me, it's Banda!

23. LULU: I don't care. Come on, both of you - clear that table
and do your homework. Tomorrow's a school day.

24. BANDA/KADU: Yes, Mum.

Musical interlude

SCENE 2: NONI IS FED BY HER FATHER

25. **ATMO: NIGHT IN THE SLUMS**

26. **SFX: SPOON AND PLATE NOISES AS SOMEONE EATS**

27. **PAULO:** Eat Noni, my daughter. Eat! Daddy wants you to grow big!

28. **NONI:** Chain! Chain bad!

29. **PAULO:** I know, baby. I don't like keeping you in chains. But it's not safe for you out there.

30. **SFX: VIOLENT RATTLING OF CHAIN**

31. **NONI:** No. No! Chain bad!

32. **PAULO:** Shh! It's okay, baby. It's okay!

33. **SFX: DOOR OPENS**

34. **SFX: FOOTSTEPS COMING IN**

35. **SAMA:** Sorry, Dad - is everything okay? I heard her shout.

36. **PAULO:** Everything's fine, Sama. Your sister's just complaining again about the chains.

PAUSE

37. **SAMA:** Dad?

38. **PAULO:** Yes.
39. **SAMA:** Can I ask you something?
40. **PAULO:** Of course, Sama.
41. **SAMA:** Promise me you won't be angry.
42. **PAULO:** Just ask, Sama, my daughter. I won't get angry, I promise.
43. **SAMA:** Why do we keep her in chains?
44. **NONI:** Chain bad!
45. **PAULO:** Come here, Noni - we can take off the chains as long as we're in here with you.
46. **SFX: CHAINS LOOSENED**
47. **NONI:** **(CELEBRATES)** Yee!
48. **SAMA/PAULO: CHUCKLE**
49. **PAULO:** **(TO SAMA)** Sama, I've told you before. Your sister could fall unconscious anywhere, anytime, with no warning. We don't want her to be hit by a car or anything. We can't always be there to protect her. This is for her own good.
50. **SAMA:** Was Noni born like this?

51. **PAULO:** **(SIGHS)** No, your sister was born healthy. But when she was still little someone looked at her with evil eyes. So now, even though she's older than you, she looks and behaves like a child.
52. **SAMA:** I don't understand. What do you mean, someone looked at her with evil eyes?
53. **PAULO:** She was bewitched.
54. **SAMA:** **(DISBELIEVING)** Bewitched? Really? Does that really happen?
55. **PAULO:** You have no idea, Sama, my daughter. There is so much evil in this world. But the God I pray to will take revenge for me. Your sister will recover, and whoever is responsible for this will pay. One day!

Musical interlude

SCENE 3: BANDA AND LULU CAN'T SLEEP

56. **ATMO: SLUM AT NIGHT**

57. **KADU: SNORES**

58. **SFX: SOMEONE TOSSING AND TURNING IN BED**

59. **BANDA: (WHISPERS URGENTLY) Kadu! Kadu! Wake up!**

60. **KADU: GROANS SLEEPILY**

61. **BANDA: Kadu! Wake up!**

62. **KADU: (SLEEPILY) What, Banda?**

63. **BANDA: My stomach hurts!**

64. **KADU: Go to sleep, it'll go away.**

65. **BANDA: TOSSES AND TURNS**

66. **BANDA: Kadu!**

67. **KADU: (ANNOYED) What, Banda!**

68. **BANDA: I need to go to the toilet.**

69. **KADU: Then go! Just let me sleep.**

70. **BANDA: I'm afraid... It's dark out there!**

71. **KADU: I'm not going! You go!**

72. **LULU: You boys go back to sleep. What are you whispering about in the dark? You want to wake your sister Joy?**

Flashback Ep. 8, line 2

73. **BANDA:** Mum, my stomach hurts.
74. **LULU:** Mine too, Banda. I haven't slept a wink. I was just going to go to the toilet. You want to come with me?
75. **BANDA:** Yes, Mum.
76. **LULU:** Get the matches. It's dark and dirty out there. We don't want to step in someone's mess!
77. **KADU: LAUGHS NAUGHTILY UNDER THE BLANKETS**
78. **LULU:** Kadu! Shut your mouth, you naughty boy! What are you laughing at?

Musical interlude

SCENE 4: NIKI WANTS A BABY

79. **ATMO: NIGHT, LIGHT TRAFFIC IN THE BACKGROUND**
80. **MERCY: SNORES**
81. **SFX: BLANKETS TURNING, ETC**
82. **NIKI:** (LOW VOICE) Hey, Mercy? ...Mercy?
83. **MERCY:** STILL SLEEPING
84. **NIKI:** (AS HE SHAKES HER) Mercy!
85. **MERCY:** (WAKES UP LAZILY) Mmm? What is it, Niki?

86. **NIKI:** Nothing. I just wanted to... you know.
87. **MERCY:** Go back to sleep, Niki. You'll wake Linda.
88. **NIKI:** I'll be as quiet as possible, I promise.
89. **MERCY:** No, Niki.
90. **NIKI:** **(ALMOST BEGS)** Please?
91. **MERCY:** Niki, I'm tired. And besides, we're out of condoms.
92. **NIKI:** **(BEGS)** Please, Mercy!
93. **MERCY:** **(FULLY AWAKE)** Excuse me! Are you asking me to have sex with you without condoms, in your condition, Niki? Really?
94. **NIKI:** Just this once!
95. **MERCY:** Niki - what's wrong with you? You know once is enough to transmit the virus.
96. **NIKI:** **(ANGRY)** I am your husband, for crying out loud!
97. **MERCY:** I know you're my husband! You think I *don't* know that? You're HIV positive, for Pete's sake!
98. **NIKI:** **(SARCASTIC)** Yeah! Thanks a lot for reminding me!

Flashback Ep. 8, line 4

99. MERCY: Why... why are you doing this? Do you want to infect me? Is that what you want?

100. NIKI: **(ANGRY, SHOUTS)** I want a baby, okay?! I want a baby!

101. MERCY: **(UTTERLY SHOCKED)** What?!

OUTRO:

What an astonishing announcement! Tune in next time to hear how Mercy reacts. And if you want to know more about Niki's thoughts on this topic, he's more than happy to tell you: take a look at his video diary on our website, dw.de/lbe. And what do you think about Paulo's statement that his daughter Noni is disabled because she was bewitched? Tell us your opinion about this on Facebook. Until next time - goodbye!